

12TH AFRECON

**12TH REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR
AFRICA AND ARAB COUNTRIES
AND RELATED MEETINGS**

AGENDA



**GABORONE SUN CONFERENCE CENTRE,
BOTSWANA
22-25 SEPTEMBER 2015**

www.world-psi.org

TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

09:00-12:30 AFREC

WOMEN'S SEMINAR

14:00-14:30 **Opening Session**

Welcome by Ritta Thandeka Msibi, PSI Vice-President, DENOSA, South Africa

Welcome by Naomi Dedei Otoo, Chair of PSI Africa Women's Committee, Public Utility Workers' Union of TUC, Ghana

Welcome by Alice Motshegwe, Vice-President of Botswana Land Board & Local Authorities & Health Workers Union, on behalf PSI Botswana affiliates

Adoption of agenda

Moderated by Veronica Montúfar, PSI Equality Officer

14:30-15:45 **Precarious Work**

Presentation of the PSI Report on Precarious Work, by Moradeke Abiodun-Badru, Nigerian National Union of Midwives and Nurses, Nigeria

Women in precarious employment in the MENA region, by Nassira Ghodzlane, PSI EB member, Syndicat National Autonome des Personnels de l'Administration Publique, Algeria

Young workers demand decent work, by Fatou Diouf, PSI EB Young Workers representative, Syndicat Autonome des Travailleurs de la Sénégalaise des Eaux, Senegal

Discussion moderated by Sandra Vermuyten, PSI Head of Campaigns

16:00-17:15 **Ending violence against women**

Ending the worst forms of violence against women, by Naomi Dedei Otoo, Chair of PSI Africa Women's Committee, Public Utility Workers' Union of TUC, Ghana

Addressing workplace violence against women – a trade union strategy, by Milimo Kapombe, University of Zambia and Allied Workers Union, Zambia

Discussion moderated by Charlotte Kalanbani, PSI Sub-regional Secretary for French Speaking Africa

17:15-17:45 **Gender equality and global policies – From Global to Local**

Making women's and trade union voices heard – United Nations Commission on the Status of Women: The way forward, by Marie Mbayabu Nianga, Solidarité Syndicale Infirmiers du Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo

Gender Equality, the Post 2015 Development Agenda and Financing for Development – the role of Trade unions in Africa, by Everline Aketch, PSI WOC Substitute member East and West Africa, National Union of Educational Institutions, Uganda

17:45-18:00 **Closing remarks and adoption of the Conclusions of the Women's Seminar**

18:00-19:00 **Registration of participants**

WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2015

YOUNG WORKERS' SEMINAR

Chairpersons: Boemo Batho and Kebonyemodisa Watota

09:00-9:20 **Opening Session**

Welcome and introductions

Adoption of agenda

9:20-10:40 **Strengthening the role of young workers in trade unions**

The case of Ghana, presented by **Bernard Adjei** and **Gladys Alantiya**

The case of Nigeria, presented by **Simon Idoko Obongo**

The case of South Africa, presented by **Sibusiso Given Valashiya**

The case of Tunisia, presented by **Nawfel Rhayem** (TBC)

10:40-11:10 **Coffee Break**

11:10-12:30 Defining priorities for young workers in Africa and the Arab countries

Informal work
Labour casualization
The Role of Young Workers in PSI Structures

13:30-14:30 **Registration of participants**

START OF AFRECON

14:30-15:00 Introduction and adoption of the Conference agenda
Confirmation of the Co-chairs of the Conference
Confirmation of the Standing Orders Committee members
Confirmation of the Credentials Committee members
Confirmation of Resolution Committee members
Confirmation of the Tellers

15:00-16:30 Presentation on **Trade Union Violations in the Africa and Arab Region**
Introduction by **Sandra Vermuyten**, PSI Equality and Rights Officer
Session chaired by **Nassira Ghozlane**, PSI Titular, Arab Countries
There will be four discussants one from each sub-region to make comments on the study
Discussion

17:00-18:30 Presentation on **Fair Taxation for Quality Public Services**
By **Baba Aye**, Deputy General Secretary, Medical and Health Union of Nigeria
Introduction by **Daniel Bertossa**, PSI Director of Policy and Governance
Session chaired by **Sikalame Seitiso**, Co-Chairperson from Botswana
Participation of **Bernard Adjei**, Deputy General Secretary of Public Services Workers Union of TUC (Ghana)
Discussion

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2015

8:00-9:00 **Registration for guests and government officials**

9:00-10:00 **OPENING CEREMONY**

National anthem of Botswana
Workers solidarity song: "Solidarity Forever" to be led by **Baba Aye**
Welcome speech by **Sikalame Seitiso**, Chairperson of Botswana NCC
Speech by **Peters Adeyemi**, PSI Vice-President of the Region
Address by **Rosa Pavanelli**, PSI General Secretary
Opening of the Conference by the **Honourable Edwin Batshu**, Minister of Labour and Home Affairs of Botswana
Vote of Thanks by **Alice Motshegwe**, Vice-President of BLLAHWU

10:00-11:30 Presentation on the Theme of the Conference: **"Consolidate the working class trade union solidarity, democracy, freedom, social justice and quality public services delivery"**
By **Dr. Kalusopa Trywell**, Botswana
Session chaired by **Neo Dudu Joel** from **National Amalgamated Local & Central Government, Parastatal Workers' Union**
Discussion

11:30-12:30 **Group Photo** with PSI representatives, invited guests and government officials from Botswana

12:30-14:00 **Lunch break**

14:00-14:15 **Report from the Standing Orders Committee** and adoption of report
Report from the Credentials Committee and adoption of report

14:15-16:30 Presentation on the **Role of ITUC-Africa in Advancing the Course of Public Sector Trade Unions in Africa**
By **Kwasi Adu-Amankwah**, ITUC-Africa General Secretary
Session chaired by **Jean-Marie Ndi**, PSI Titular, French-Speaking Africa
Discussion

16:30-17:00 **Coffee break**

17:00-18:00 Presentation on **Enhancing PSI Agenda: Contribution of Union Development and International Cooperation**
By **Jasper Goss**, PSI Project Officer.
Session chaired by **Mgaya Adelgunda**, PSI Titular, English-Speaking Africa
Discussion

DINNER FOR ALL DELEGATES (Hosted by Botswana Affiliates)

FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2015

9:00-9:30 **Announcements and Solidarity Messages**

9:30-11:00 Panel Discussions on **Ebola: A Strategy that call for Investment in Public Health Systems**
Panel members include **Ayuba Wabba**, President of WAHSUN, **Marie Mbayabu** from DRC, and **Dr L. Toni Lewis**, Chair of SEIU Healthcare (USA) and **Dr Jasper Goss** Projects Coordinator, PSI
Session chaired by **Ritta Thandeka**, PSI Vice-President for Africa and Arab Countries
Questions

11:00-11:30 **Coffee Break**

11:30-12:30 Presentation on the **Regional Solidarity Fund**
By **Jean-Marie Ndi**, PSI Titular, French-speaking Africa
Session chaired by **Peters Adeyemi**, **PSI Vice-President for Africa and Arab Countries**
Discussion

12:30-14:00 **Lunch break**

14:00-16:00 **Regional Activities Report and Regional Action Plan for 2014-2018**
By **David Dorkenoo**, PSI Regional Secretary for Africa and Arab Countries.
Session chaired by **Peters Adeyemi**, PSI Vice-President for Africa and Arab Countries
Discussion and adoption

16:00-16:30 **Coffee break**

16:30-17:15 Introduction and adoption of **recommendations from pre-conference meetings**

17:15-17:45 Adoption of **AFRECON Recommendations and Resolutions**
Presentation of the **Regional Leadership** to the Conference

17:45-18:00 **Closing of AFRECON**

SOLIDARITY FOREVER

Chorus:
Solidarity Forever
Solidarity Forever
Solidarity forever for the union makes us strong

When the union's inspiration through
The workers blood shall run
There can be no power greater anywhere
Beneath the sun
Yet what force on earth is weaker than the
Feeble strength of one but the union makes us strong

(Chorus)

In our hands is place a power greater than
Their hoarded gold,
Greater than the might of armies magnified
A thousand fold,
We can bring a new world from the ashes of the old,
For the union makes us strong

(Chorus)